

Message Text

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SUBJECT: UN FINANCES: FIFTH COMMITTEE MEETING NOVEMBER 7, 1975,
P.M.

1. SUMMARY: AT ITS 1734TH MEETING, COMMITTEE BEGAN CONSIDERATION OF PROGRAM BUDGET (PB) SECTION 15, REGULAR PROGRAM OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, WITH STANDARD POSITIONS BY DELS FAVORING AND OPPOSING INCLUSION OF SUCH AID IN REGULAR BUDGET ELABORATED. DISCUSSION OF ITEM 99, JOINT INSPECTION UNIT (JIU), CONTINUED; UK OPPOSED US PROPOSAL THAT JIU BE MADE AN EXTERNAL EVALUATION MECHANISM. PB SECTION 23, CONFERENCE AND LIBRARY SERVICES, WAS INTRODUCED. NEAR MEETINGS END, A SHARP DIALOGUE DEVELOPED BETWEEN ALGERIA AND CHAIRMAN OVER PROPRIETY OF ACABQ CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON COFERENCES. END SUMMARY:

2. PB SECTION 15 - REGUALR PROGRAM OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE- IN BRIEF DISCUSSION, US, UK, USSR REPEATED STANDARD POSITIONS IN OPPOSITION TO INCLUSION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN UN REGULAR BUDGET. ITALY, PHILIPPINES, ALGERIA, IRAQ, INDIA, INDONESIAN DISAGREED. PHILIPPINES SAID UNDP RESOURCES NOT ENOUGHT AND REGULAR BUDGET PROGRAM NEEDED AS SUPPLEMENT. SWEDEN SAID ASSESSED BUDGET, EVEN IF TOKEN AMOUNT, EMPHASIZES COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL MEMBER STATES.

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3. ITEM 99 - JOINT INSPECTION UNIT- PHILIPPINES DEL

URGED PROMPT ACTION OF JIU REPORTS. FRENCH DEL SUPPORTED DRAFT DECISION IN A/C. 5/L.1248. UK DEL FAVORED RENEWAL OF JIU MANDATE NEXT YEAR AND URGED CAUTION IN CHANGING ITS FORM OR MANDATE. SPECIFICALLY, UK OPPOSED US PROPOSAL IN WORKING GROUP ON BUDGET MACHINERY THAT JIU BE TRANSFORMED INTO EXTERNAL EVALUATION MECHANISM.

4. PB SECTION 23 - CONFERENCE AND LIBRARY SERVICES - SECTION WAS INTRODUCED AFTER USSR OBJECTED THAT IT SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN UP TILL ITEM ON PATTERN OF CONFERENCES CONSIDERED. USSR CHARGED THAT SOMEONE EVIDENTLY WANTED SECTION 23 APPROVED BEFORE COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES REPORT, WHICH HAS RECOMMENDATIONS AFFECTING SECTION 23 COULD BE CONSIDERED. CHAIR SAID THAT ALTHOUGH DISCUSSION OF SECTION 23 WOULD BEGIN NOW, COMMITTEE WOULD NOT VOTE ON IT UNTIL COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES REPORT CONSIDERED. NEVERTHELESS, USSR DECLINED TO PARTICIPATE IN DISCUSSION OF SECTION 23. ACABQ CHAIRMAN MSELLE THEN INTRODUCED SECTION, FOLLOWED BY USYG LEWANDOWSKI, WHO IN LONG STATEMENT EMPHASIZED THAT BUDGET REPRESENTED A DECISION NOT TO REQUEST INCREASE IN CAPACITY TO PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION. HE ALSO DWELT ON ACUTE PROBLEMS OF PROVIDING ADEQUATE INTERPRETATION SERVICES, WITH NEW LANGUAGES AND GROWING CONFERENCE NEEDS. POINTED OUT THAT ONLY IN THE AREA OF INTERPRETATION AT HEADQUARTERS IS THERE REAL GROWTH IN CONFERENCE SERVICES BUDGET. ADMITTED THAT COORDINATION OF CONFERENCE SERVICES AMONG VARIOUS UN CITIES LEAVES SOMETHING TO BE DESIRED. UK SAID IT SUPPORTED SYG ESTIMATES AS REDUCED BY ACABQ BUT WAS DISTURBED BY HIGH COST OF INTERPRETERS AND NOTED THAT THERE WAS NO COMPARISON GIVEN BETWEEN WORKLOAD OF THE TWO BIENNIA. SUGGESTED THAT USE OF FREE-LANCE INTERPRETERS BE REDUCED OR ELIMINATED, WHICH WOULD BE FACILITATED IF ALL MEETINGS WERE HELD AT THE ESTABLISHED HEADQUARTERS OF EACH BODY.

5. WORK PROGRAM- CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCED THAT SECTION 23 WOULD NOT BE RESUMED UNTIL WEEK OF NOV 24, AT WHICH TIME ITEM 100, PATTERN OF CONFERENCES, WOULD BE INTRODUCED. THIS WAS BECAUSE NOT ALL THE ITEM 100 DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE YET.
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IN ITS PLACE, ITEM 106, UN PENSION SYSTEM, WILL BE TAKEN UP WEEK OF NOV 10. AT NEXT MEETING, MONDAY MORNING, NOV 10, COMMITTEE WILL TAKE UP FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF A DRAFT RES ON PALESTINE, CONTINUE PB SECTION 15, BEGIN CURRENCY INSTABILITY, CONTINUE ACCOMMODATIONS IN ADDIS ABABA, BANGKOK, AND SANTIAGO, CONCLUDE ITEM 99 (JIU), AND CONCLUDE PUBLIC INFORMATION POLICIES AND OPI.

6. COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES /ACABQ - CHAIRMAN THEN SAID A " CONSTITUTIONAL" PROBLEM HAD ARISEN OVER THE

RIGHT OF THE ACABQ TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF THE
COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES. THE FACT THAT THE ACQBQ'S
REPRT WAS NOT OUT HAD IN FACT PRPMPED HIS DEFERRAL OF
SECTION 23 AND ITEM 100. CHAIR WAS AWARE THAT SOME DELS
QUESTIONED PRORIETY OF ACQBQ ACTION BUT ASKED THAT
DEBATE ON THIS POINT BE POSTPONED UNTIL WEEK OF NOV 24.
ALGERIA OBJECTED STRONGLY, CONTENDING ACQBQ MANDATE
EXTENDED ONLY TO CONSIDERATION OF BUDGETARY MATTERS.
CHAIR POINTED OUT PREVIOUS COMMITTE ON CONFERENCES HAD
SENT ITS REPORTS TO ACQBQ, AND ALGERIA RETORTED THAT
PRESENT COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES WAS GIVEN MUCH MORE
POWER. ON MOTION OF MEXICO, DEBATE ON THIS QUESTION WAS
ADJOURNED TILL MONDAY.
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